

To-day's
Advertisements.

TO-NIGHT at 9.
WARREN'S CIRCUS
and
Prof. BRISTOL'S EQUUS-CURRICULUM.
"THE THIRD EDITION."
GALA REVIVAL
REVEALING IN EXTRAORDINARY
SPECIALITIES.
See "The Three Merry Clowns in a Tub."
See "The Altons on a Double Trapeze."
See "The Duchess of Hongkong."
See "The Screaming Burlesque" William Tell, by Benham & Rogers.
See "The Gracful Wire Act, by Miss Ethel Warren."
See "Comanche" The Live Rocking Horse.
See "The Ponies at Lunch," "Lottas" Rope Jumping.
See "Hysack's Top Spinning, &c., &c."
GRAND LAST MATINEE.
TO-MORROW (SATURDAY)
AFTERNOON, at 3.
Children, half price.
USUAL PRICES.
SEATS at Messrs. COTMAN & Co.,
W. PFLUGER,
Press Representative.
Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [323a]

BIJOU THEATRE.

RECREATION GROUNDS, PRAYA WEST.

D'ARCY'S MARIONETTES.

LAST GRAND MATINEE.
SATURDAY, 25th March, at 3.30.
Don't forget to take the Children to see
THE WAR.

The Management regret to announce the
LAST NIGHTS
of this Exceptionally Brilliant and Enormously
Successful Company owing to previous
arrangements; consequently the
Season terminates positively
on
SATURDAY EVENING, the 25th instant.

TO-NIGHT,
Grand Change of Programme
ROBINSON CRUSOE.

PLAN at ROBINSON PLANO Co.,
Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [118a]

THEATRE ROYAL.

MESSRS. DALLAS AND MUSGRAVE'S
DRAMATIC COMPANY.

GRAND OPENING NIGHT,
MONDAY, the 27th March.

WILSON BARRETT'S MASTERPIECE,
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS,"

CHARACTERS.

Marcus... Mr. Henry Dallas.

Tigellus... Mr. Kenyon Musgrave.

Nero... Mr. J. B. Ferrell.

Licinius... Mr. J. L. Hall.

Gladius... Mr. D. Mowra.

Philodemetri... Mr. F. L. ontague.

Metellus... Mr. Alfred Everette.

Sigritus... Mr. C. Crowther.

Helladius... Mr. Frank Martin.

Bellastor... Mr. Herbert James.

Servilius... Mr. Robert Stephenson.

Strabo... Mr. G. F. Stanley.

Vitruvius... Mr. T. E. Proctor.

Favus... Mr. Norman Roberts.

Titus... Mr. Edwin Phillips.

Melos... Mr. George Hughes.

Stephanus... Miss Fanny Stanley.

Therion... Miss Barbara Penn.

Thy Patricia... Miss Rosie Blair.

Dacia... Miss Bertha Hunter.

Poppa... Miss Florence Danelle.

Ananda... Miss Missy Potter.

Donna... Miss Janet Martin.

Cyrene... Miss Maude Dudley.

Zona... Miss Missy Lindsey.

Mercia... Miss Madge Grey.

Guards, Nobles, Slaves, Christians, Citizens, &c.

The superb and entirely new scenery specially
executed for this production, from the original
models, by Mr. Harry White, and arranged
by Mr. W. Fleming Vallance.

The magnificent costumes, arms, armour
and jewels, by Nathan & Co., London.

The entire production under the supervision
of Mr. Kenyon Musgrave.

Stage Manager... Mr. Kenyon Musgrave.

Asst. Stage Manager... Mr. Robert Stephenson.

Musical Director... Mr. W. Fleming Vallance.

Scenic Artist... Mr. H. Williams.

Mechanist... Mr. C. Wadell.

Property Master... Mr. W. Stevens.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENERY.

Act I.—A Public Square—Rome Under Nero.

Act II, Scene I.—The House of Fabius—

Christianity in Secret.

Scene II.—A District Prison—The

Torture Chamber.

Scene III.—The Cælian Grove—The

Massacre of the Christians.

Act III, Scene I.—The Rescue of Marcia.

Scene II.—The House of Berenice.

Scene III.—The Temptation of

Marcus.

Scene IV.—Outside the Emperor's

Palace.—The Justice of

Nero.

Scene V.—The Palace of Marcus—The

Feast of License.—The Sign

of the Cross.

Act IV, Scene I.—The Auditorium of Nero's

Cæsar.—Marcus' Appeal to

Cæsar.

Scene II.—A Street in Rome—Panom

of the Citizens.

Scene III.—A Dungeon of the Colli-

seum.—The Jews of Death and the Martyr's Crown.

Box Plan at the ROBINSON PLANO Co.,
Praya, at 8.15. Overture at 9.
Doors Open at 8.15. Overture at 9.
Normal—Special train will run at quarter
of an hour after fall of curtain every evening.
W. BROWN,
Business Manager.
Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [102a]

To-day's
Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL.
TO-NIGHT.
VIVIANNE DAGMAR.
COMEDY COMPANY.

"THE ELDER OF THE KIRK,"
(By Special Request).

"THE FIRE DANCE,"
"GREATEST OF SERPENTINE"
CREATIONS.

Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [408a]

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

There will be a **SPRING COMPETITION**
and **PRACTICE** over the 200,
500 and 600 Yards Ranges **TO-MORROW**
(SATURDAY), the 25th instant, at 3 P.M.

Seven Shots and one Slighter.

Entrance for Spoons 30 cents.

Entry Forms for the **EASTER MEETING**
will be obtainable on the **RANGE TO-MOR-**
ROW.

MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
Hon. Sec.
Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [35]

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CHALLENGE SHIELD.

FINAL TIE.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB, 38th Co.,
S.D. R.A.

TO-MORROW AFTERNOON on the
HAPPY VALLEY at **HALF-PAST FOUR**.
ADMISSION TO THE GRAND STAND—Fifty
Cents. Ladies free.

F. BROWNE,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [407a]

LECTURE.

MR. GRANVILLE SHARP has kindly
consented to deliver an Address, on
"CRIMINATION," in the **CHAMBER OF COM-**
MERCE ROOM, at the **CITY HALL**, on **TUES-**
DAY, the 25th March, 1899, at 5.15 P.M.
The **MEETING** is **OPEN** to the **PUBLIC**
and **LADIES** are invited.

The Undersigned will take the Chair.
HENRY E. POLLOCK,
Hon. Secretary.
HONGKONG ODD VOLUMES SOCIETY.
Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [409a]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

Authorized Capital... £1,000,000

Paid up Capital... £324,374

HEAD OFFICE: HONGKONG.

Board of Directors:

E. Burnie, Esq., D. Gillies, Esq.,

Chau Kit Shan, Esq., Kwun Iot Chuen, Esq.,

Chow Tung Shing, Esq., J. T. Lau, Esq.,

Chief Manager,
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Interest for 12 months Fixed... 5%

Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [8]

VICTORIA PRECEPTORY.

A REGULAR MEETING of the **VIC-**
TORIA PRECEPTORY will be held at the
FREEMASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, on
TUESDAY, the 28th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m.
precisely. Visiting Sir Knights are cordially
invited to attend.
Hongkong, 24th February, 1899. [404a]

ROTHEN MARK LODGE, No. 264.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above
LODGE will be held at the **FREEMASONS'**
HALL, Zetland Street, on **SATURDAY,**
the 1st April, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely.
Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.
Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [405a]

ZETLAND LODGE, No. 525, E.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above
LODGE will be held at the **FREEMASONS'**
HALL, Zetland Street, on **SATURDAY,**
the 1st April, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely.
Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.
Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [406a]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI.

THE Company's Steamship

HAILONG,

Captain Robson, will be despatched for the

above Ports, on **SUNDAY, the 26th instant,**

at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAIRRAK & Co.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [407a]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR TAKOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"SZECHUEN,"

Captain Pennefather, will be despatched as above

on **WEDNESDAY, the 29th instant.**

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents.

Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [402a]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA (DIRECT).

THE Company's Steamship

"SUNGKIANG,"

Captain Dodd, will be despatched as above on

THURSDAY, the 30th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents.

Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [403a]

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & Co.,
LIMITED.
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ALL our stocks of **WINES** and **SPIRITS**
are selected by experienced buyers on
the staff of our London House, bought direct
at first hand, imported in wood and bottled by
ourselves, thus saving all intermediate profits,
and enabling us to supply the best growths at
moderate prices.

PRICE LISTS, with full details, to be
had on application.

PORT after removal should be

rested a month before use. When
required for drinking at once it
should be ordered to be decanted
before being sent out.

SHERRY.—Excellent Dinner and
After Dinner Wines of very superior
Vintages. All are true **NERES**
Wines.

CLARET.—Our **CLARETS,** in-
cluding the lowest priced, are
guaranteed to be the genuine produce
of the juice of the grape and are not
artificially made from raisins and
currants, as is generally the case with
Cheap Wines.

BRANDY.—All our **BRANDY** is
guaranteed to be pure **Cognac,** the
difference in price being merely a
question of age and vintage.

WHISKY.—All our **WHISKY** is
of excellent quality and of greater
age than most brands in the market.
The **SCOTCH WHISKY** marked
"E" is universally popular, and is
pronounced by the best local con-
noisseurs to be superior to any other
brand in the Hongkong market.

We guarantee our Wines and
Spirits to be genuine only when
bought direct from us in the Colony
or from our authorised Agents at the
Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited,
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1899.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

ITALY'S DEMANDS.

Despite the fact that the Italian demand
for the cession of a coaling station in San
Mun Bay created a considerable stir at the
time, affairs appear now to have dropped
back into their usual state of stagnation. Chi-
na's hurried preparations for war have not so
far resulted in any action of an alarming na-
ture and so far as can be seen it appears as
though the matter was to be allowed to rest
until the arrival of the Italian squadron from
Venice. If Italy intended to enforce her
demand for the cession of San Mun Bay we
do not think that an Italian warship would
be quietly lying in Hongkong harbour, as is
the case at present, nor do we think that
the British Minister would have started for
home on leave, as announced in the special
telegram from our Tientsin correspondent,
which we publish to-day.

HAVE THE DEMANDS BEEN WITHDRAWN?

Reuter has informed us that the Italian
Minister's second note has been repudiated
by his Government; and also that Italy will
do all in her power to avoid using force. This
looks exceedingly like a disposition on the
part of Italy to back down and say that
after all San Mun Bay is not of such very
great importance to her as to demand
anything more than diplomatic measures
to secure its cession. Everyone is perfectly
well aware that China will only yield to a
display of superior force, and if once she
grasps the idea that Italy will not proceed
to such lengths then we may rest assured
that a lease of San Mun Bay will never be
granted. Diplomatically China takes an
immense amount of persuading and unless
the persuader is backed by a certain amount
of force his efforts are generally spent in vain.

OTHER DEMANDS.

From the telegrams from Japanese papers,
published in another column, it will be seen
that it is said that Germany is supporting
the demands of Italy, intending at the same
time to make a demand for the lease of
Samsha Bay. It is also stated that a
demand has been made by the United States
for a settlement at Amoy under the exclusive
control of America. Whether or no there
is any truth in either of these rumours we
are of course unable to state, but we should
not be at all surprised if Italy's action were
to bring about a general request all round
from the Powers for another slice of Chinese
territory. As we stated before, it is hard
to believe that Italy's interests in the
Far East demand the acquisition of
a coaling station for the protection of her
trade, and it may very well be that her
present demands have been made at the instiga-
tion of some other Power in order that an
excuse may be found for the forwarding of a
similar request. If the Italian squadron is
really on its way out here, then its actions
will be watched with a considerable amount
of interest and we may expect an eventful
summer.

TELEGRAMS.

(By Telegraph.)
Special to the "Hongkong Telegraph."

COLLISION AT SHANGHAI.

SHANGHAI, March 23rd.

7.6 p.m.

A collision occurred in the river between
the steamers *Tamsui* and *Hermes*. The
Tamsui was bound to Newchwang and the
Hermes to Shanghai. The *Tamsui* had to
be beached and both vessels are badly
damaged.

Received at 7.20 p.m.

Published at 10 a.m.

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD HOME-

WARD BOUND.

TIENTSIN, March 23rd.

7.10 p.m.

The British Minister left to-day for Wei-
hai-wei and the south. The British guard
has been withdrawn, but Lady Macdonald
still remains at Peking.

Received at 11 a.m.

Published at 11.30 a.m.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE IN

AFRICA.

LONDON, March 22nd.

An Anglo-French Agreement, forming a
supplement to the Nile Convention, has been
signed in London. Great Britain retains the
Bah-el-Ghazal and Darfur, and France, Wadai,
Bagirmi and territory on the East and North
of Lake Chad. The signatories mutually con-
cede equality of Commercial treatment in the
region between the Nile and Lake Chad, between
the fifth and fifteenth parallels. France thus
obtains access to the Nile.

[From Japanese Papers]

ITALY AND CHINA.

THE PRESENT SITUATION.

The Chinese Government made a reply
yesterday to the demand of the Italian Minis-
ter. It is believed that the Italian demand has
been finally refused.

After making its reply to the Italian Minister,
the Chinese Government has made no further
communication. It is considered that negotia-
tions are now broken off. The Italian Minister
seems to be embarrassed as to his course of
action. The Captain of the *Marzo Polo* is
holding conference with the Minister in the
Italian Legation.

A PEKING RUMOUR.

Tokyo, March 15th.

A Peking telegram of the 13th inst. states
that the present demand of Italy has been made
at the instigation of Germany, which has the
idea of forcing the lease of Samsha Bay at the
same time.

Great Britain is embarrassed as the Chinese
consider that she is assisting Italy.

THE ITALIAN WARSHIPS.

Tokyo, March 15th.

A telegram received in Tokyo to-day states
that the Italian cruisers *Marzo Polo* and *Elba*
are lying in the vicinity of Samun Bay, fully
prepared for action.

JAPANESE GUNBOAT FOR CHINA.

Tokyo, March 15th.

A telegram has reached the Government that
the gun-boat *Talusta* is to leave Sasebo to-
morrow for China.

DEMAND ON CHINA BY THE

UNITED STATES.

PERKINS, March 14th.

The United States has made a demand to
have a Settlement at Amoy under the exclusive
control of America.

ARREST OF A RAILWAY PRESIDENT.

Tokyo, March 14th.

Mr. Takeda, the President of the recently
dissolved Seibu Railway Co., has been arrested
by the Metropolitan Police Bureau at the
request of the Nani Chihō Sabansho. He is
suspected of certain illegal proceedings in con-
nection with the dissolution of the company.

MAJOR ESTERHAZY AND THE ARMY.

SAIGON, March 13th.

